

Creating Your Own Blog

ED3862 / ED4862

As part of ED3862 and ED4862, you will be required to create and maintain a personal reflective journal using an on-line web-log, commonly called a blog.

This document will demonstrate the basic steps to create, add entries (called *posts*) and report your blog to your instructor.

Each student will develop and maintain an on-line personal reflective blog. This blog space will act as a journal in which students will post observations about what we are learning during the course of study, how it relates to education, business and society and their own personal learning. Examples of what students might blog about would be:

- something we discussed in class that they were able to use
- observations of ways that students (or your own children) were using technology in their learning
- observations about new barriers and opportunities created by technology for business
- effective teaching, learning and business strategies using technology
- sharing and reactions to something you have read or seen in the media regarding how technology has altered the way we work, play and learn

The ideas are endless...just your thoughts...

Students should blog at least twice a week...these don't have to be lengthy....just a paragraph or two....

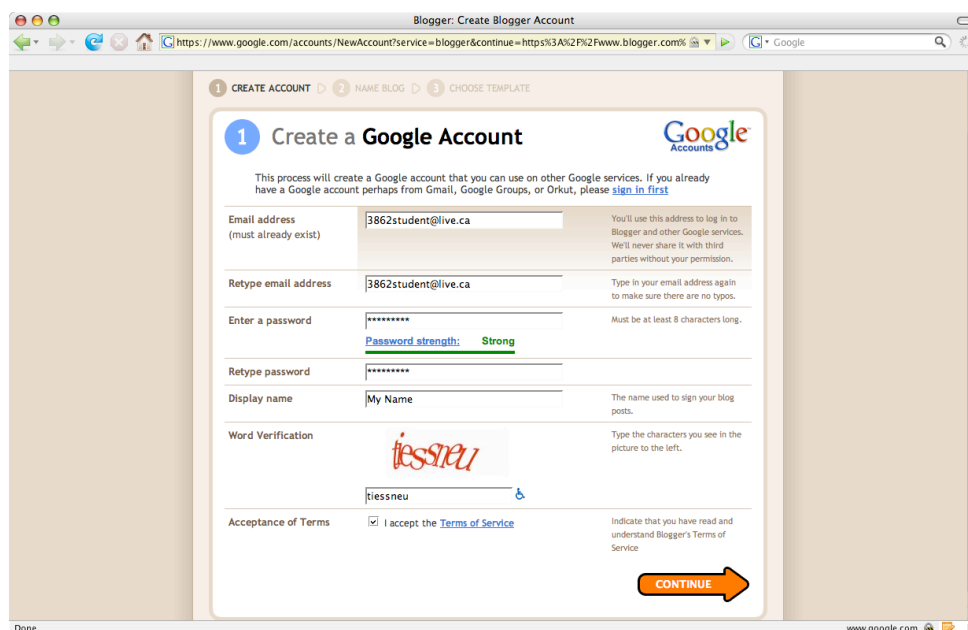
STEP 1:

Go to <http://www.blogger.com> to create your blog. Click on “CREATE YOUR BLOG NOW” (see the Orange Arrow)



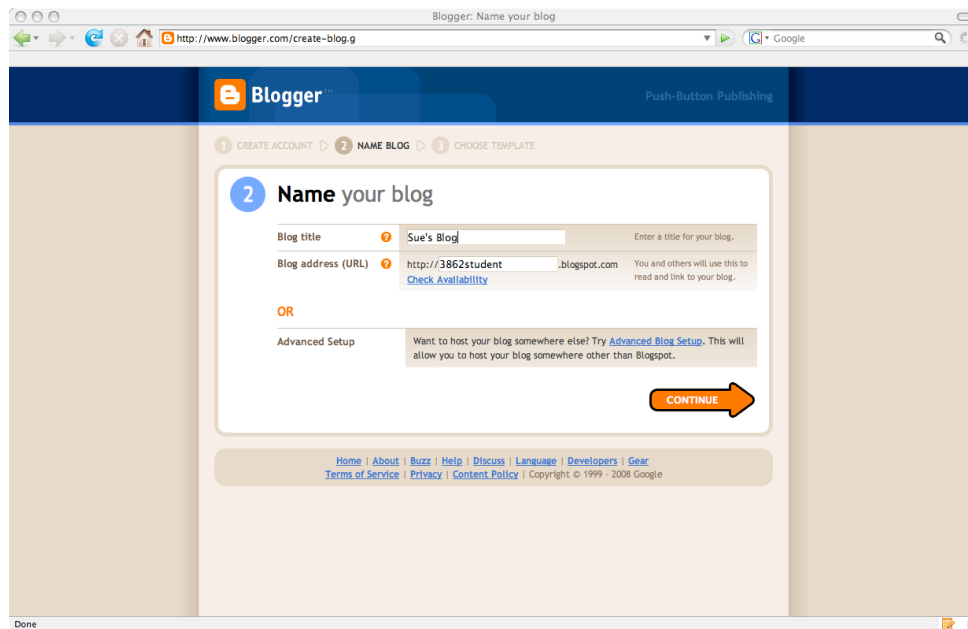
STEP 2:

Create your blog by filling in your email address, requested password and your display name. Your display name should be your real first name. You may add your last name if you wish. Click “CONTINUE”.



STEP 3

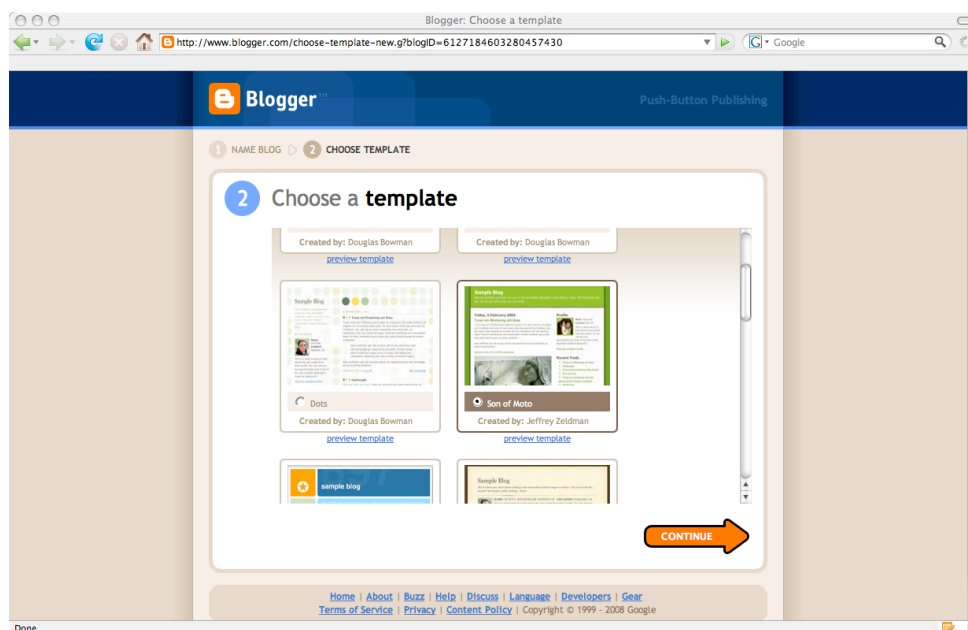
Name Your Blog. It can be called anything you wish (e.g. “Sue’s Blog”, “Teaching and Learning”, “Mama’s Nest”, etc.). Then give it a blog address (e.g. “susantheteacher”). This will be used to create the Internet URL address for your blog (e.g. <http://susantheteacher.blogspot.com>). Blogger blogs all end with [blogspot.com](http://susantheteacher.blogspot.com). Click “CONTINUE”.



The screenshot shows the Blogger 'Name your blog' setup page. The browser address bar displays 'http://www.blogger.com/create-blog.g'. The page has a blue header with the Blogger logo and 'Push-Button Publishing'. Below the header, a progress bar shows three steps: 1. CREATE ACCOUNT, 2. NAME BLOG (active), and 3. CHOOSE TEMPLATE. The main content area is titled '2 Name your blog'. It contains two input fields: 'Blog title' with the text 'Sue's Blog' and a placeholder 'Enter a title for your blog.', and 'Blog address (URL)' with the text 'http://3862student' and a placeholder '.blogspot.com'. A 'Check Availability' link is next to the URL field. Below these fields is an 'OR' separator and an 'Advanced Setup' section with a link to 'Advanced Blog Setup'. At the bottom right of the main content area is an orange 'CONTINUE' button with a right-pointing arrow. The footer contains links for Home, About, Buzz, Help, Discuss, Language, Developers, Gear, Terms of Service, Privacy, and Content Policy, along with a copyright notice for 1999-2008 Google.

STEP 4

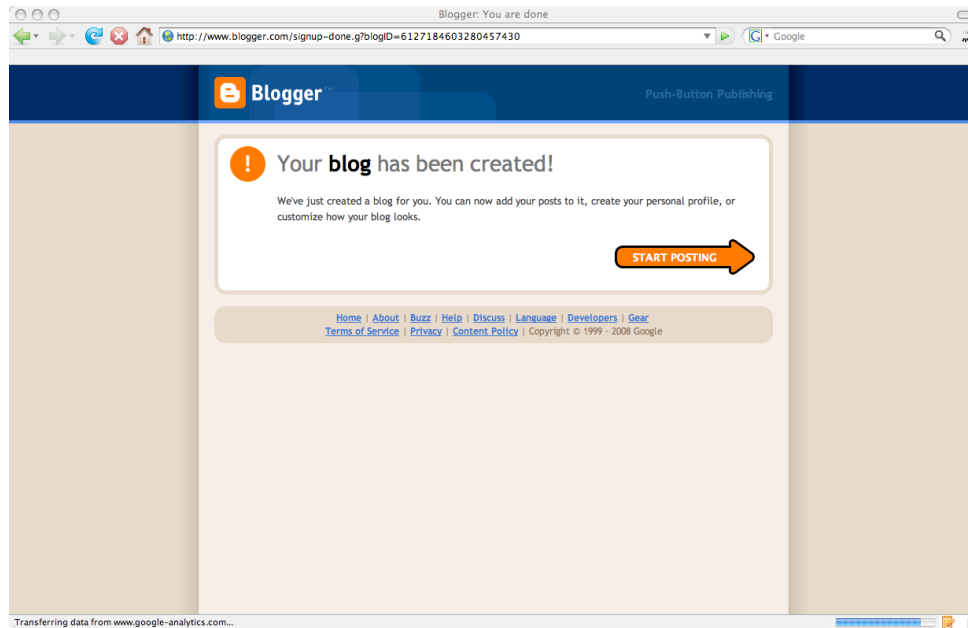
Choose a template from the selections to create a look for your blog.



The screenshot shows the Blogger 'Choose a template' selection page. The browser address bar displays 'http://www.blogger.com/choose-template-new.g?blogID=6127184603280457430'. The page has a blue header with the Blogger logo and 'Push-Button Publishing'. Below the header, a progress bar shows two steps: 1. NAME BLOG and 2. CHOOSE TEMPLATE (active). The main content area is titled '2 Choose a template'. It displays four template preview cards. Each card shows a sample blog layout and includes the text 'Created by: Douglas Bowman' and a 'preview template' link. The templates are: 'Sample Blog', 'Sample Blog', 'Dots', and 'Son of Moto'. At the bottom right of the main content area is an orange 'CONTINUE' button with a right-pointing arrow. The footer contains links for Home, About, Buzz, Help, Discuss, Language, Developers, Gear, Terms of Service, Privacy, and Content Policy, along with a copyright notice for 1999-2008 Google.

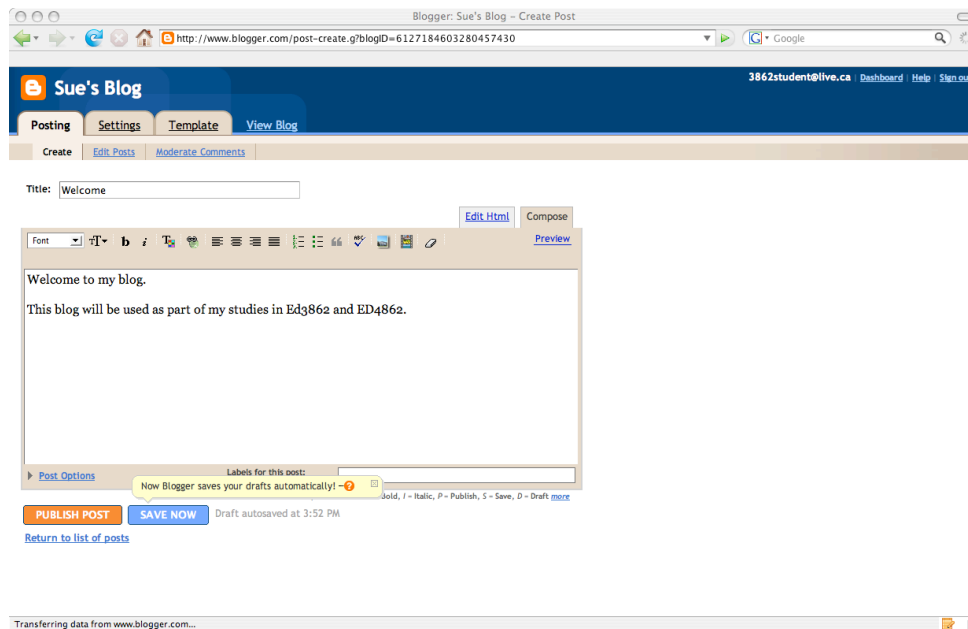
STEP 5

Click “START POSTING” to add your first entry, called a “post”.



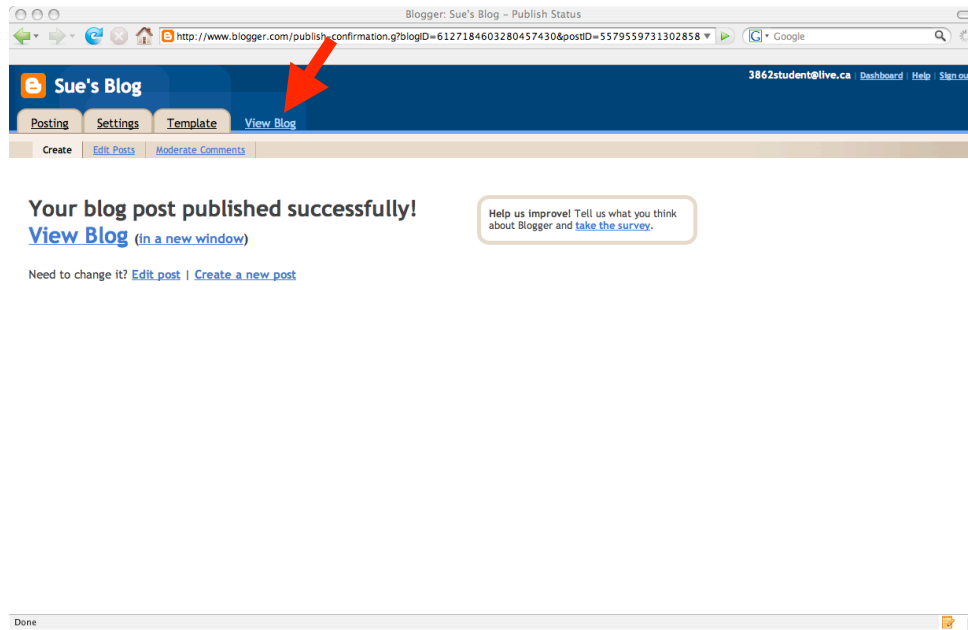
STEP 6

Make your first post a welcome message to your blog. Remember, this is a public blog and people all over the world may read it at some point. You can tell them what the blog is for and what you will be talking about. Hit “PUBLISH POST” when you are ready.



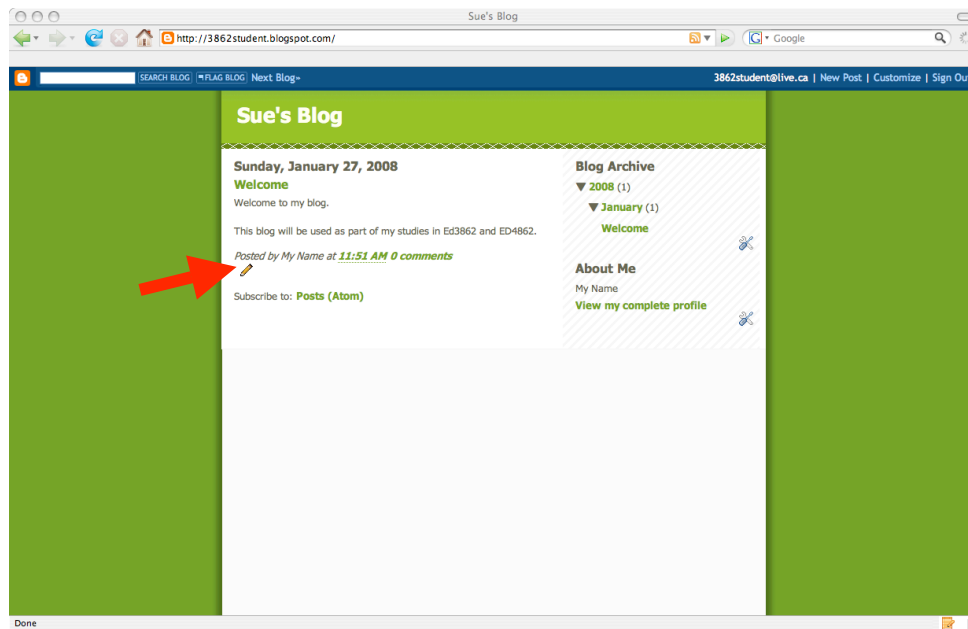
STEP 7

Your post will now be published on the web. You can check it by clicking on “VIEW BLOG”.



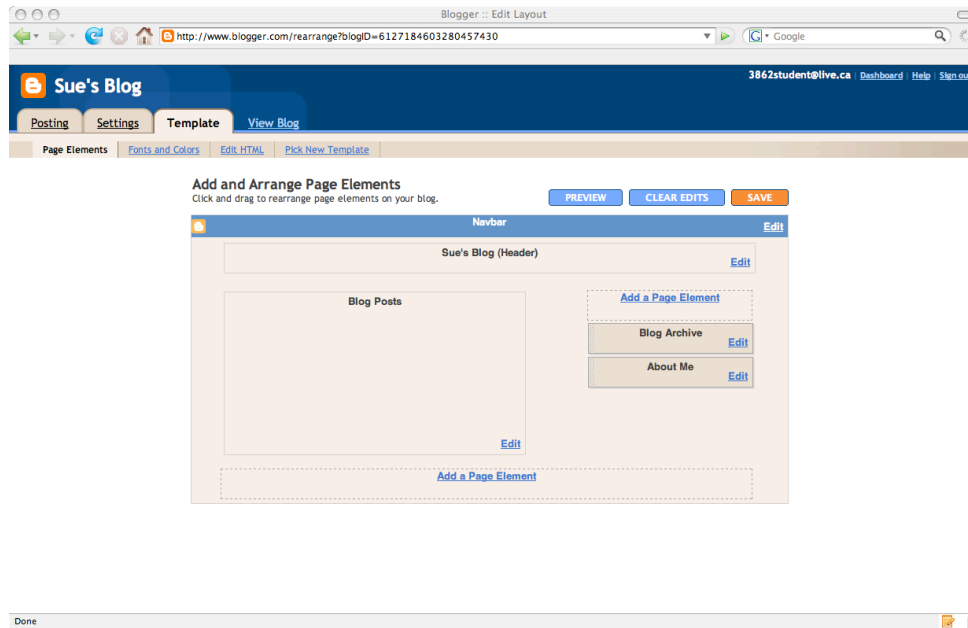
STEP 8

Check your post. You can edit it by clicking on the small pencil at the end of the post.

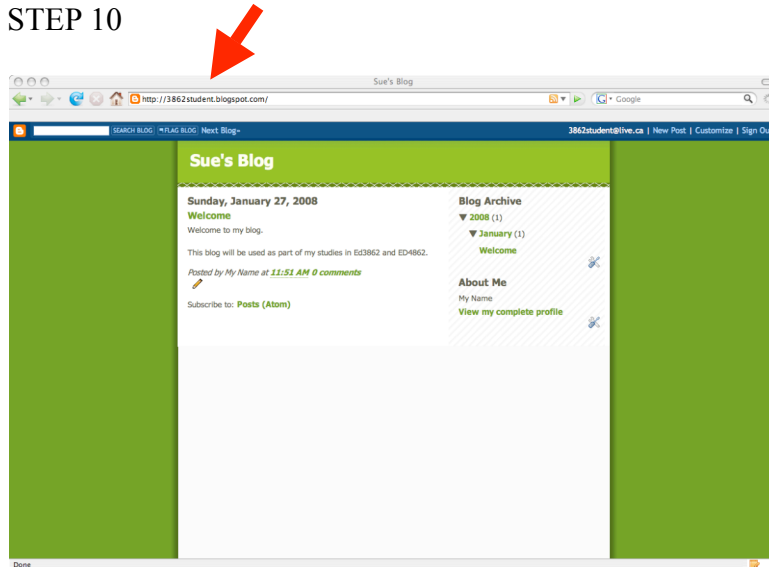


STEP 9

You can customize your blog by adding additional page elements (pictures, links, headers, etc) by clicking on “CUSTOMIZE” in the NavBar on the top of the blog in the previous step.



STEP 10



Email your blog URL (the to the instructor so that he can monitor your blog. You can find the URL by looking at the top of the browser window. It will start with “http://” and end with “blogspot.com”.

The Instructors address is:

Jeff.Whipple@nbed.nb.ca

Making New Posts

STEP 1

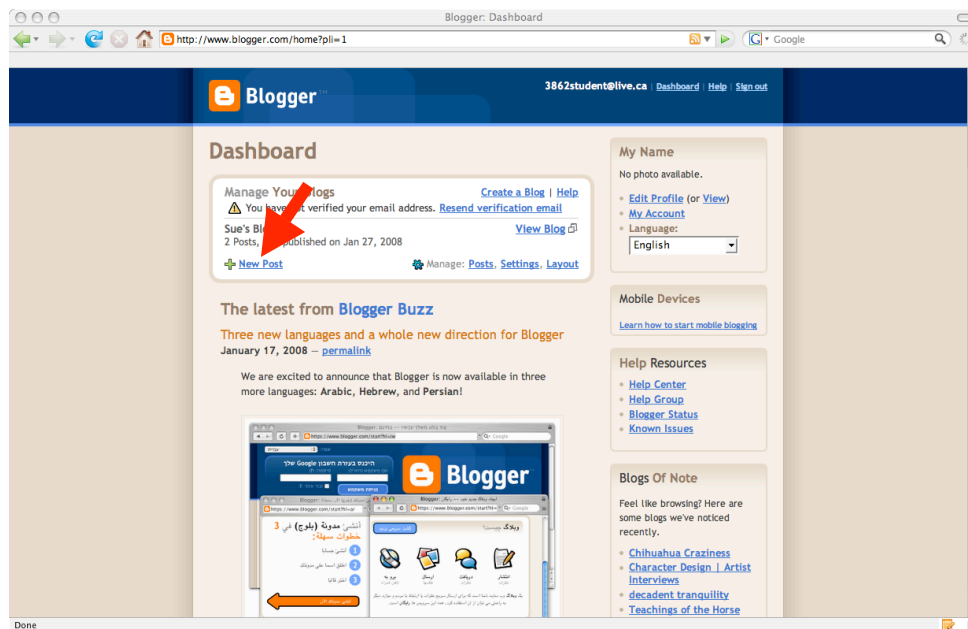
Go to <http://www.blogger.com> and sign in. Use your email address as your username and the password you entered previously. If you forget your password try a couple. If you still forget look for the “Forgot my Password” link. You can follow the steps to retrieve / reset your password.



STEP 2

You will arrive at the dashboard. You will see all your blogs here (you can have more than one!). To make a new post click on “NEW POST” under the name of the blog.

You can use the “Posts”, “Settings” and “Layout” links to manage your blog’s look.



STEP 3

Enter the title and text for your post and post as usual.

